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| TRDC | Three Rivers HouseNorthwayRickmansworthHerts WD3 1RL |

**Amended Motion 1**

**Councillor Matthew Bedford, seconded by Councillor Sarah Nelmes to move under Notice duly given as follows:**

Council recognises that central Government’s National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF):

1. Includes a formula for calculation of ‘Housing Need’ which is based on out-of-date forecasts and which leads to a higher figure for Three Rivers than would be the case with more recent data

2. Gives powers to the Planning Inspectorate (an unelected quango) to approve or reject local plans based on achievement of the calculated ‘Housing Need’ figure

3. Gives powers to the Planning Inspectorate to approve or reject appeals against refusal of planning permission based on achievement of the calculated ‘Housing Need’ figure

4. Does not enable councils to argue that having only Green Belt sites available is an ‘exceptional circumstance’ justifying departing from the calculated ‘Housing Need’ figure

5. Despite paying lipservice to the protection of the Green Belt, in practice therefore requires councils to allocate future housing development sites in the Green Belt if all other options have been exhausted

Council notes:

1. The very large number of responses to the recent “Regulation 18” consultation about its new Local Plan

2. The high degree of concern expressed by residents across the district and by Councillors of all parties about the potential use of Green Belt land for future housing developments

**3. The recent Planning Inspectorate appeal decisions (including nearby examples in recent months in Colney Heath and Codicote) which have given permission for housing development in the Green Belt, despite the acknowledged harm caused, explicitly on the grounds that the local council could not demonstrate it had a plan to achieve its calculated Housing Need figures**

4. The recent letter from Daisy Cooper MP to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government calling for amendments to the NPPF to remove the ability of the Planning Inspectorate to use the standard calculation ‘Housing Need’ in assessing local plans and in deciding planning appeals

**5. The reply from the junior minister Christopher Pincher MP which states “we will continue to expect only the use of the 2014-based projections” and “it would not be appropriate for the Government to remove the ability of the Planning Inspectorate to use the standard method in examining Plans and deciding appeals.”**

Council therefore calls for changes to the NPPF to remove the ability of the Planning Inspectorate to use the standard calculation ‘Housing Need’ in assessing local plans and in deciding planning appeals, and resolves to:

1. Write to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government setting out the Council’s position and calling for changes to the NPPF before the end of 2022 to remove the ability of the Planning Inspectorate to use the standard calculation of ‘Housing Need’ in assessing local plans and in deciding planning appeals and requesting confirmation when the changes will be enacted

2. Write to all MPs representing parts of the district and call on all those who have not already done so to write to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government supporting the council’s position that the NPPF must be amended before the end of 2022 to remove the ability of the Planning Inspectorate to use the standard calculation of ‘Housing Need’ in assessing local plans and in deciding planning appeals

**Amended Motion 2**

**Councillor Ciaran Reed, seconded by Councillor Alison Wall to move under Notice duly given as follows:**

Following how recent events in Bucks Hill have highlighted some of the issues with traveller and gypsy sites. This motion aims to provide for a better plan for unauthorised and illegal traveller and gypsy encampments in Three Rivers. This motion notes that currently Three Rivers District Council has no dedicated email account for such incursions, meaning that residents have to email the general enquires email or call the general helpline for residents, slowing the process compared to having a more dedicated service, leaving residents without a clear point of contact or a quick response to illegal traveller and gypsy encampments as they get mixed with general enquires. Furthermore, this motion notes that Three Rivers District Council’s response to illegal and unauthorised encampments is slower on weekends due to the necessary persons needed to deal with such situations not working on those days, leading to an increase in distress for local residences impacted by this delay and the potential for exploitation of sites on weekend. This motion also records that other local authorities, such as Essex County Council, have dedicated forms online to report unauthorised and illegal traveller and gypsy encampments and that Three Rivers District Council does not provide such a service.

Therefore, this first motion resolves to: (1) Create a dedicate email for queries on traveller and gypsy encampments in Three Rivers District that directs straight to those who respond to such matters; (2) Research the costs to Three Rivers District Council of the an online form for reporting illegal and unauthorised traveller and gypsy encampments in a similar style to that already available for those in Essex County Council’s jurisdiction; (3) Investigate the costs of having officers on call if encampments develop on a weekend; (4) For the results of action 2 and 3 to be made available to councillors to help inform future policy decision and motions.

References:

[https://essex-self.achieveservice.com/service/Unauthorised\_encampments?accept=yes&consentMessageIds[]=4](https://essex-self.achieveservice.com/service/Unauthorised_encampments?accept=yes&consentMessageIds%5b%5d=4)

**Amended Motion 3**

**Councillor Reena Ranger, seconded by Councillor Alex Hayward to move under Notice duly given as follows:**

This Council believes that every women, and in fact every person, in Three Rivers has the right to walk in our District with freedom and confidence knowing that they are safe. The District Council is responsible for many car parks, green spaces and high streets.

This Council resolves to undertake a review on any measures that may be needed to ensure we are doing all that we can to ensure the safety of all.

**Motion 4**

**Councillor Joan King, seconded by Councillor Stephen Cox to move under Notice duly given as follows:**

Three Rivers District Council notes:

* UK companies are using the cover of Covid-19 to embark upon a concerted attack on employee pay and benefits with nearly one in ten workers being told to re-apply for their jobs on worse terms and conditions including Three Rivers residents.
* Thousands of workers across Britain are facing a ‘levelling down’ in pay, overtime, holiday benefits and working conditions, due to ‘fire and rehire’ tactics being deployed by unscrupulous employers in stark contrast to the Government’s stated promises.
* Workers are being given an ultimatum to either accept reduced pay and benefits or face the sack - this cannot be right, nor is it morally defensible.
* Sir Keir Starmer, the Labour Party, TUC and others have united in condemning this disgraceful attack on all workers.

This Council therefore resolves to:

* Refuse to enter into contracts doing business with companies using these tactics, in so far as this is legally possible, utilising and updating all necessary policies to achieve this
* Write to the three MPs whose constituencies cover the Three Rivers District Council area and ask them to support the banning of fire and rehire in Parliament
* Write to the Prime Minister urging him to bring forward legislation that bans ‘fire and rehire’

**Motion 5**

**Councillor Phil Williams, seconded by Councillor Andrew Scarth to move under Notice duly given as follows:**

Three Rivers District Council declared a Climate Emergency in 2019 and committed to becoming a climate neutral Council for its’ own operation by 2030, and to achieve net zero emissions for the District by 2045. Since then a Climate Emergency Strategy has been developed and adopted, and the accompanying action plan will be presented to the Leisure Committee on 13 October. Numerous actions are already taking place which have been the Council achieve top recycling authority in the country, they have earned 4 prestigious Green Flag Award for our parks, retrofitting over 150 homes in the District with energy efficiency measures, commencing an engagement programme with residents through new sustainability groups, our own COP 26 event at Watersmeet amongst others. Great Big Green Week was celebrated across Three Rivers with numerous activities and country walks, litter picks, film screening and a webinar on adaptation. At present the Council is actively calculating its’ own emissions and plotting its own trajectory to achieve net zero emissions. A biodiversity assessment is taking place across the District in order to assess the opportunities for Biodiversity gain, this will put the Council in a strong position to benefit from the gains arising from the pending Environment Bill.

Council notes that:

1. The CEE Bill Alliance, made up of Scientists, Lawyers and Activists, tabled a Private Members Bill in Parliament.
2. The Bill has the potential to become the most significant move forward since the Climate Change Act 2008.
3. Numerous MPs have so far supported the Bill, with co-sponsors across the political spectrum
4. The Bill sets an emergency path for the UK to follow, ensuring the UK plays its fair and proper role in limiting global temperatures to 1.5°C and actively conserving the natural world

Three Rivers District Council declared a climate emergency in July 2019 and committed to becoming a climate neutral council by 2030, and for the District to be carbon neutral by 2040.  The Council is also joining the UK 100 pledge to share information and resources with other like-minded councils who share the same ambitious targets

 This Council believes that:

All Governments (national, regional and local) have a duty to limit the negative impacts of climate and ecological breakdown;
Local governments should not wait for their national governments to change their policies; - Towns, cities and local authorities are uniquely placed to lead in tackling the climate and ecological emergency due to the close links with their residents;
The Climate and Ecological(CEE) Bill deserves the support of the government as it enforces the urgency of our own climate emergency.

Council therefore resolves to:

Work with partners locally and regionally to drive coordinated leadership and collaborative action to aid the recovery of nature and natural environments and identify areas for habitat restoration;
Lead by example and promote the good work the Council is currently and will in future be doing;
Publicly support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill;
Ask the Leader of the Council to write to our MPs to urge them to sign up to support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill.